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Message Text

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46
ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAJ-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /135 W
---------- 067672
R 051420Z FEB 74
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3800
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 712

FROM MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, XF, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET MIDDLE EAST DELEGATION MOVEMENTS

REF: GENEVA 383

1. WHEN DELOFFS PAID COURTESY CALL FEB 5 ON SOVIET DELOFF ZHUKOV (IN ORDER FOR SMITH TO INTRODUCE OAKLEY), LATTER EVEDENTLY WELCOMED THE CONTACT WARMLY. ZHUKXV DESCRIBED DAY AS GLOOMY ONE FOR HIM PERSONALLY--ORDER HAD JUST COME FROM MOSCOW RECALLING ALL DELEGATION MEMBERS EXCEPT VINOGRADOV AND HIMSELF, WHO HAD BEEN TOLD TO STAY PUT, AND OTHERS WERE RETURNING HOME THAT SAME DATE. ZHUKOV EXPLAINED THAT SOVIET DELOFFS PYRLIN HAD RETURNED TO GENEVA VERY SHORTLY AFTER MOSCOW VISIT OF EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMY AND WAS AMONG THOSE GOING BACK TO MOSCOW FEB. 5. (WE IN FACT RAN INTO PYRLIN IN HALL LATER AND FOUND HIM BEAMING.)
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2. ZHUKOV COMMENTED THAT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS RE GENEVA CONFERENCE DEPENDED TO CONSIDERABLE EXTENT ON OUTCOME OF GROMYKO'S TALKS WITH SECRETARY, ABOUT WHICH HE WAS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING WORD FROM MOSCOW. HE SAID HE DID NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT AS RESULT, THINGS COULD BECOME ACTIVE IN GENEVA INNEAR FUTURE--IN WHICH CASE HIS COLLEAGUES RETURNING TO MOSCOW FEB. 5 WOULD BE BACK IN A HURRY.

3. IN COURSE OF BRIEF DISCUSSION OF SITUATION IN AREA, ZHUKOV REMARKED THAT ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT BELIEVE SYRIAN PRES ASAD WAS IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL TROUBLE, THERE WAS NO QUESTION THAT IRAQIS WERE EXERCISING SOME INFLUENCE ON SYRIAN BAATH PARTY AND THAT THIS REDUCED ASAD'S MANEUVERABILITY.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA00712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740256/aaaacaac.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GENEVA 383
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MIDDLE EAST DELEGATION MOVEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, XF, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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